

No: 12/89

Ref: EW/G89/08/16

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: (1) DH82A Tiger Moth, G-AOJJ
(2) DH82A Tiger Moth, G-AJHS

No & Type of Engines: (1) 1 De Havilland Gipsy Major 1 piston engine
(2) 1 De Havilland Gipsy Major 1F piston engine

Year of Manufacture: (1) 1942
(2) 1941

Date and Time (UTC): 28 August 1989 at 1705 hrs

Location: West Malling Airfield, Nr Maidstone, Kent

Type of Flight: Private (pleasure)

Persons on Board: Crew - (1) 1 Passengers - (1) 1
(2) 1 (2) None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: (1) Minor to propeller and radius rod
(2) Substantial to right wings

Commander's Licence: (1) Airline Transport Pilot's Licence
(2) Commercial Pilot's Licence with Instrument and Full Instructor Ratings

Commander's Age: (1) 56 years
(2) 24 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: (1) 10,932 hours (of which 473 were on type)
(2) 1,730 hours (of which 210 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Forms submitted by both pilots and further telephone inquiries

A formation of six Tiger Moths had lined up for take-off when the leader noticed that the left hand cowling of the aircraft on his right was insecure. He informed the pilot who left his aircraft with the engine running and a passenger on board to secure the cowling. Having fastened the rear catch he shut down the engine to secure the front catch. He then attempted to hand swing the propeller with his unqualified passenger at the controls and the wheels unchocked. The engine was reluctant to start but when it did the aircraft began to move forward. The pilot attempted to restrain the aircraft while at the same time trying to reach the magneto switches in the front cockpit. He was unsuccessful and the aircraft swung to the left and collided with the lead aircraft.